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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4478

INFO RUCNRAQ/IRAQ COLLECTIVE

RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC

RUEHAK/USDAO ANKARA TU

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP:PDUSDP/ISA:EUR/ISA:NESA//

RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

RUEUITH/ODC ANKARA TU

RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC//J-3/J-5//

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RHMFIUU/425ABS IZMIR TU//CC//

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RUEPGAB/MNF-I C2X BAGHDAD IZ

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 ANKARA 002853

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PTER PREL PGOV TU IZ

SUBJECT: Update on PKK Violence (November 16-23, 2007)

REF: ANKARA 2798 and previous

(U) Sensitive but unclassified - please protect accordingly.

¶1. (SBU) This is another in a series of periodic reports on PKK violence in Turkey. Our primary source is the Turkish General Staff (TGS) website, which documents contacts and clashes with the PKK as well as casualties incurred. The TGS does not account for police casualties and the Ministry of Interior casualty date is not made public. As a result, actual numbers for total Turkish law enforcement casualties are higher than the figures in this cable. Press services sympathetic to the PKK, such as Neu-Isenburg People's Defense Forces and Firat News Agency, tend to report higher numbers of the Turkish Security Forces casualties and are often otherwise unreliable.

¶2. (U) During the November 16-23, 2007 reporting period, no GOT security official was killed or injured in clashes.

¶3. (U) In the same period, six PKK terrorists were captured.

¶4. (U) The TGS website reported two clashes between security forces and PKK terrorists. Since an October 21 terrorist ambush that resulted in the deaths of 12 soldiers, the Turkish military has been continuing non-stop operations in the region. Security forces discovered at least 11 PKK shelters/caves/caches and seized booby-trapped land mines; other explosives, including A-4 and TNT; Kalashnikov rifles; cartridges; hand grenades; pistols; night vision binoculars; TV sets; satellite antennas; and radios.

¶5. (U) During the reporting period, security forces detected at least five PKK explosive devices in SE Turkey, detonating several of them in controlled fashion before they could explode.

¶6. (U) Activity as reported by TGS website:

CLASHES (NUMBER)

May 2007, 40

June 2007, 40

July 2007, 15

August 2007, 12

September 2007, 35

October 2007, 24

November 1-7, 5

November 8-15, 2

November 16-23, 2

CASUALTIES

Security Forces

May 2007 15 KIA, 52 WIA

June 2007 23 KIA, 51 WIA

July 2007 10 KIA, 14 WIA

August 2007 12 KIA, 30 WIA

September 2007 12 KIA, 32 WIA

October 2007 34 KIA, 21 WIA

November 1-7 2 KIA, 1 WIA

November 8-15 4 KIA, 2 WIA

November 16-23, 0 KIA, 0 WIA

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PKK

May 2007 20 KIA, 31 captured, 3 surrendered

June 2007 34 KIA, 16 captured, 17 surrendered

July 2007 11 KIA, 10 captured, 13 surrendered

August 2007 38 KIA, 24 captured, 7 surrendered

September 2007 40 KIA, 15 captured, 9 surrendered

October 2007 85 KIA, 18 captured, 4 surrendered

November 1-7 6 KIA, 10 captured, 0 surrendered

November 8-15 0 KIA, 3 captured, 10 surrendered

November 16-23 0 KIA, 6 captured, 0 surrendered

CACHES RECOVERED (NUMBER)

May 2007, 113

June 2007, 50

July 2007, 28

August 2007, 40

September 2007, 119

October 2007, 51

November 1-7 20

November 8-15 15

November 16-23 11

¶7. (U) Following are the casualty figures for 2007.

TURKISH SECURITY FORCES (KIA or WIA)

JANUARY 1 KIA, 2 WIA

FEBRUARY 1 KIA, 0 WIA

MARCH 5 KIA, 4 WIA

APRIL 18 KIA, 16 WIA

MAY 15 KIA, 43 WIA

JUNE 24 KIA, 51 WIA

JULY 10 KIA, 14 WIA

AUGUST 12 KIA, 30 WIA

SEPTEMBER 12 KIA, 32 WIA

OCTOBER 34 KIA, 21 WIA

November 1-7 2 KIA, 1 WIA

November 8-15 4 KIA, 2 WIA

November 16-23, 0 KIA, 0 WIA

TOTAL 138 KIA, 216 WIA

PKK (KIA, Captured or surrendered)

JANUARY 0 KIA, 5 captured, 3 surrendered

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FEBRUARY 0 KIA, 14 captured, 0 surrendered

MARCH 16 KIA, 15 captured, 7 surrendered

APRIL 16 KIA, 8 captured, 4 surrendered

MAY 20* KIA, 31 captured, 3 surrendered

JUNE 34 KIA, 16 captured, 17 surrendered

JULY 11 KIA, 10 captured, 13 surrendered

AUGUST 38 KIA, 24 captured, 7 surrendered

SEPTEMBER 40 KIA, 15 captured, 9 surrendered

OCTOBER 85 KIA, 18 captured, 4 surrendered

November 1-7 6 KIA, 10 captured, 0 surrendered

November 8-15 0 KIA, 3 captured, 10 surrendered

November 16-23 0 KIA, 6 captured, 0 surrendered

TOTAL 266 KIA, 175 Captured, 77 surrendered

* Includes PKK suicide bomber from May 22 attack in Ankara

CIVILIANS (KIA or WIA)

JANUARY 0 KIA, 0 WIA

FEBRUARY 1 KIA, 0 WIA

MARCH 0 KIA, 0 WIA

APRIL 1 KIA, 0 WIA

MAY 14*KIA, 108* WIA

JUNE 1 KIA, 1 WIA

JULY 1 KIA, 3 WIA

AUGUST 1 KIA, 1 WIA

SEPTEMBER 7 KIA, 1 WIA

OCTOBER 0 KIA, 19 WIA

November 1-7 0 KIA, 0 WIA

November 8-15 0 KIA, 1 WIA

November 16-23 0 KIA, 0 WIA

TOTAL 26 KIA, 134 WIA

* Includes 9 KIA and 100 WIA from May 22 Ankara bombing.

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